

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

Issue: March 2009

MEPAG Meeting #20: March 3-4, 2009 in Arlington, VA.

Mars Science News

We hope you can participate in the upcoming MEPAG meeting, either in person or via WebEx. The WebEx directions will be sent out via email and posted to the MEPAG website (mepag.jpl.nasa.gov) before the meeting.

Google Mars

On Monday, February 2, 2009, Google, Inc. released Google Earth 5.0, which contains a Mars 3D mode. Ross Beyer and his colleagues at NASA Ames Research Center helped with getting the data into a format ready for Google. The Ames press release is here: http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/news/releases/2009/09_10AR.html. The Google blog post is here: <http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/2009/02/google-earth-goes-to-mars.html>. And a short video tour can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/d5mavj>.

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>First Quarter, 2009</i>		
	March 7-14, 2009 Big Sky, Montana	2009 IEEE Aerospace Conference http://www.aeroconf.org/
	March 9-10, 2009 DC area	OPAG meeting http://www.lpi.usra.edu/opag/
	March 21-22, 2009 The Woodlands, Texas	Volcanism on the Moon and Mercury: A New Paradigm in Comparative Planetology http://www.planetary.brown.edu/html_pages/micro49.htm

	<p>March 22, 2009 The Woodlands, Texas</p>	<p>MRO/CRISM Data Users' Workshop: High resolution hyperspectral images from the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) Compact Reconnaissance Imaging Spectrometer for Mars (CRISM) have been released to the PDS with a variety of ancillary data that support map projection, correction of surface measurements for photometric and atmospheric effects, and basic processing of the data. In addition, global mapping data at a reduced spatial and spectral resolution have been released in map projected form as nearly 2000 tiles each covering about 0.05% of Mars' surface. The CRISM team has developed and tested a number of specialized tools that plug in to ITT Visual Information Systems' ENVI software package. These will be publicly available in early 2009. At this workshop CRISM team members will review basic CRISM data products and their uses, acquaint data users with online tools to search the data set, and provide a tutorial of how to use custom software available under ENVI. MRO/CRISM Data Users' Workshop information and registration: http://crism.jhuapl.edu/CRISM_workshop_2009/ Contacts: Scott Murchie (Scott.Murchie@jhuapl.edu) or Frank Seelos (Frank.Seelos@jhuapl.edu)</p>
	<p>March 23-27, 2009 The Woodlands, Texas</p>	<p>40th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference (LPSC 2009) Note new location; The Woodlands, TX http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2009/</p>
<p><i>Second Quarter, 2009</i></p>		
	<p>April 2-4, 2009 Mainz, Germany</p>	<p>Conference on Micro-Raman Spectroscopy and Luminescence Studies in the Earth and Planetary Sciences http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/spectroscopy2009/</p>
 	<p>April 23-24, 2009 Vienna, Austria</p>	<p>European Geosciences Union PS2.6 Session on Mars Science and Exploration Day 1 is an all-day poster session, and day 2 is an all-day oral session http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2009/session/853</p>
	<p>UPDATE May 11, 2009 LMA</p>	<p>Next 2001 Mars Odyssey PSG Meeting</p>
	<p>May 11-15, 2009 Noordwijk, THE NETHERLANDS</p>	<p>International Conference on Comparative Planetology: Venus-Earth-Mars at ESTEC Abstracts due March 2, 2009 Contact: Augustin Chicarro, Augustin.Chicarro@esa.int or Hakan Svedhem, Hakan.Svedhem@esa.int http://www.rssd.esa.int/eslab-2009/</p>
	<p>UPDATE May 24-27, 2009 Toronto, Ontario, Canada</p>	<p>2009 GAC-MAC/AGU Joint Assembly Online abstract submission deadline is March 4, 2009, at 23:59 hrs Universal Time. Further information can be found at http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja09/ Conveners: Jafar Arkani-Hamed (jafar@physics.utoronto.ca), Jaime Urrutia-Facugauchi (juf@geofisica.unam.mx), and Hernan Ugalde (ugaldeh@mcmaster.ca)</p>
 	<p>May 25-28, 2009 Darmstadt, Germany</p>	<p>Mars Express Science Team Meeting Location ESOC. Contact Agustin Chicarro, Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int</p>
	<p>June 1-2, 2009 Houston, TX</p>	<p>Workshop on Modeling Martian Hydrous Environments http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/hydrous2009/</p>
 	<p>June 11-17, 2009 Moscow, Russia</p>	<p>17th IAA Humans in Space Symposium http://iaa-his2009.imbp.ru/index00e-s.html</p>

	June 11-17, 2009 Pasadena, California	214th American Astronomical Society Meeting http://aas.org/meetings/aas214
	June 13-14, 2009 Barcelona, Spain	Planetary Protection Short Course http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/
	June 14-20, 2009 Castellaneta M., Italy	XIV International Clay Conference Note special session on Clay Minerals in Extraterrestrial Environments will include a plenary lecture by Dr. Nick Tosca, "Extracting Aqueous Chemistry from Clay-Bearing Assemblages Formed on Ancient Mars." http://www.14icc.org/
	June 15-19, 2009 Barcelona, Spain	7th International Planetary Probe Workshop Abstract deadline March 1, 2009 http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/
	June 21-26, 2009 Davos, Switzerland	Goldschmidt™ 2009 - "Challenges to Our Volatile Planet" Note key theme areas of Mars interest: Theme 1: Nebular Processes, Planet Formation and Comparative Planetology Theme 2: Earth, The Early Years: Building a Habitable Planet Theme 16: Life at the Edge: Extreme Environments http://www.goldschmidt2009.org
	June 25-26, 2009 San Antonio, TX	Annual Meeting of Planetary Geologic Mappers Location Trinity University (GIS workshop for mappers, June 23 and 24). Contact Les Bleamaster (lbleamas@psi.edu)
<i>Third Quarter, 2009</i>		
	June 29-July 13, 2009 Reykjavik, Iceland	Nordic-NASA Summer School "Water, Ice and the Origin of Life in the Universe" Application deadline: March 1, 2009 http://www.nordicastrobiology.net/iceland2009/
	July 6-11, 2009 Melbourne, Australia	7th International Conference on Geomorphology Ancient Landscapes – Modern Perspectives Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre There will be dedicated sessions on Planetary Geomorphology and a field trip to examine analog landscapes in South Australia. http://www.geomorphology2009.com/ (Submitted by Mary Bourke, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, Arizona)
	July 13–18, 2009 Nancy, FRANCE	72nd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society Contact: Marc Chaussidon, Guy Libourel or Bernard Marty http://www.metsoc2009.org/
	Late July, 2009 Providence, Rhode Island	MEPAG #21 meeting

	July 20-24, 2009 Pasadena, CA	2009 Planetary Science Summer School (First Session) NASA is accepting applications from science and engineering post-docs, recent PhDs, and doctoral students for its 21 st Annual Planetary Science Summer School, which will hold two separate sessions this summer at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. During the program, student teams will carry out the equivalent of an early mission concept study, prepare a proposal authorization review presentation, present it to a review board, and receive feedback. At the end of the week, students will have a clearer understanding of the life cycle of a space mission; relationships between mission design, cost, and schedule; and the tradeoffs necessary to stay within cost and schedule while preserving the quality of science. Applications are due May 1, 2009. Partial financial support is available for a limited number of individuals. Further information is available at http://pscischool.jpl.nasa.gov (will be updated in early March).
	July 21-24, 2009 Seattle, Washington	3rd International Workshop on Mars Polar Energy Balance and the CO2 Cycle http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/mpeg2009/
	August 11-15, 2009 Singapore	6th Annual General Meeting of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society 16 Sessions in Planetary Sciences covering various topics that include interiors, oceans, surfaces, atmospheres, ionospheres, magnetospheres of planets, satellites, comets, minor bodies.... Session details at: http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/public.asp?page=mars/confSessionList.asp Conference: http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/ Abstract deadline is March 15, 2009
	August 2009 Grenoble, France	IEEE GRSS Workshop on Hyperspectral Image and Signal Processing Deadline for full paper submission is March 31, 2009 http://www.ieee-whispers.com/
	August 11-15, 2009 Pasadena, CA	2009 Planetary Science Summer School (Second Session) See description under July 20-24 1 st session.
	September 13-18, 2009 Potsdam, Germany	European Planetary Science Congress http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2009/information/index.html
	September 14-18, 2009 Taos, New Mexico	Mars Sedimentology/Stratigraphy Details to follow in an upcoming newsletter
	September 20-23, 2009 Alghero, Sardinia, Italy	International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) Meeting Session T7: Sedimentology and Stratigraphy in the inner and Outer Solar System Fieldtrip FT5: Tunisian desert: a perfect place to simulate landing on Mars http://www.ias2009.com/
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2009</i>		
	Correction October 4-9, 2009 Fajardo, Puerto Rico	41st Annual Meeting DPS http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html
	October 12-16, 2009 Daejeon, South Korea	60th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) Abstract deadline March 2, 2009 http://www.iac2009.kr/

	October 18–21, 2009 Portland, Oregon	Geological Society of America National Meeting http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/
	October 28-30, 2009 Golden, CO	11th Space Resources Roundtable Held at the Colorado School of Mines Joining individuals from the space exploration community, the financial sector and mining and minerals industries, the SRR seeks to bring together interested parties to discuss issues related to the In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) of unar, asteroidal and martian resources. http://www.isruinfo.com/
	November 25-27, 2009 ESRIN, Frascati, Italy,	Methane Workshop Contact Victorio Formaniso
	December 14–18, 2009 San Francisco, California	AGU Fall Meeting www.agu.org/meetings
2010		
	February 27-28, 2010 Monrovia, CA	MEPAG #22
	March 2010 Houston, Texas	Lunar and Planetary Science Conference http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2009/
	Spring 2010	Fourth MSL Landing Site workshop
	June 8-12, 2010 Oslo, Norway	International Polar Year Oslo Science Conference http://www.ipy-osc.no/
	July 18–25, 2010 Bremen, GERMANY	38th COSPAR Scientific Assembly Abstract Deadline: Mid-February 2010 Topics: - SC B: The Earth-Moon System, Planets, and Small Bodies of the Solar System - SC C: The Upper Atmospheres of the Earth and Planets Including Reference Atmospheres - SC D: Space Plasmas in the Solar System, Including Planetary Magnetospheres - SC F : Astrobiology and Space Science, Including Habitability on Mars : Past, Present & Future - Panel on Planetary Protection (PPP) Contact: cospar@cosparhq.cnes.fr http://www.cospar2010.org/ or http://www.cospar-assembly.org
	July 25 or August 1, 2010 Toronto, Ontario CANADA	73rd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society Contact: Dr. G. Srinivasan http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings
	October 2010	Fifth MSL Landing Site workshop
	October 18-22, 2010 Madison, WI	42nd Annual Meeting of the DPS http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html
	October 31– November 3, 2010 Denver, Colorado	Geological Society of America National Meeting http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/

	December 13–17, 2010 San Francisco, California	AGU Fall Meeting www.agu.org/meetings
<i>2011</i>		
	July 2011 Pasadena, California	8th International Conference on Mars California Institute of Technology
	August 2011 Greenwich ENGLAND, UK	74th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society Contact: Gretchen Benedix http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings
	October 2011 Nice, FRANCE	43rd Annual Meeting of the DPS http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html
	October 9–12, 2011 Minneapolis, Minnesota	Geological Society of America National Meeting http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/
	December 12–16, 2011 San Francisco, CA	AGU Fall Meeting www.agu.org/meetings
<i>2012</i>		
	August 2012 Cairns, Queensland AUSTRALIA	75th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society Contact: Trevor Ireland http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings
	August 2012 Brisbane, AUSTRALIA	The 34th International Geological Congress http://www.33iqc.org/

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/ meetings:

Good Friday	4/10/2009	4/2/2010	4/22/2011	4/6/2012	3/29/2013
Rosh Hashanah	9/19/2009	9/9/2010	9/29/2011	9/17/2012	9/5/2013
Yom Kippur	9/28/2009	9/18/2010	10/8/2011	9/26/2012	9/14/2013
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/26/2009	11/25/2010	11/24/2011	11/22/2012	11/28/2013
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/12/2009	10/11/2010	10/10/2011	10/8/2012	10/14/2013

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Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's email to Joyce Pulliam, Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov, 818-393-0444.

All announcements listed in this newsletter will be posted on the MEPAG website, available at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>.